

National Association of Federal Retirees

Quarterly Newsletter

Nanaimo & Area Branch federalretirees-nanaimo.ca
PO Box 485, Lantzville, BC V0R 2H0

April 2022
Tel: (250) 248-7171



September 26, 2019 - Annual General Meeting held at the Parksville Legion- 133 attendees

Next Meeting - Annual General Meeting - Attendees must be fully vaccinated

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 4 2022.

Doors open 10:00 AM, Meeting starts 1100 AM.

Location: Nanaimo Golf Club, 2800 Highland Blvd, Nanaimo BC V9S 3N8

Directions: There is NO direct access to Highland Blvd if you are traveling north on Island Highway. You MUST turn right onto Departure Bay Road, left onto Montrose Ave, and right again onto Highland Blvd to reach the club.

If you are traveling south on Island Highway, turn left onto Highland Blvd (the turn for Dorman Rd is on the right) and then, at the first driveway on the left, turn into the club.

Business Meeting: 11:00-12:00. Elections for executive

Presentation: 12:15 - 12:45 - TBA

Luncheon - Buffet Cost is \$30. Exact change would be appreciated.

Buffet includes Caesar & Greek salads, Chicken Breast, desserts and coffee and tea.

Note: Premeeting coffee not included. Please donate a \$1.00 for your coffee.

In-House Draw - Tickets \$2 or 3 for \$5. All proceeds to charity. We are also collecting non-perishable food or cash for the local food banks.

Reservations/Cancellations:

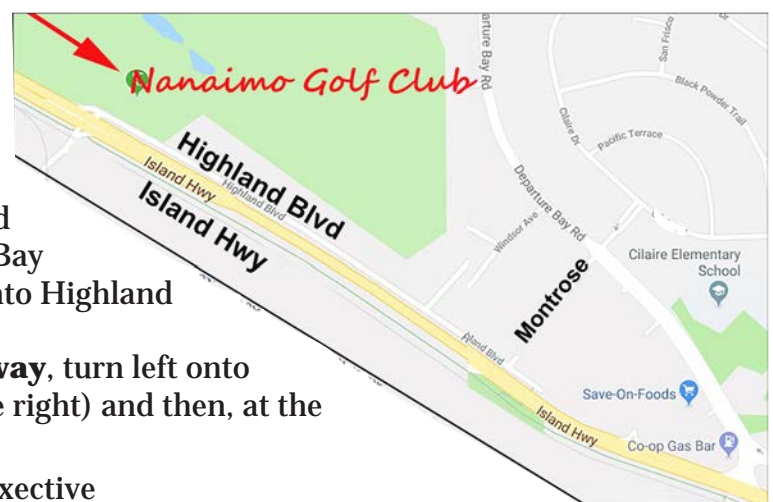
Your local Federal Retirees volunteer will phone you to ask whether you plan to attend the lunch. **To cancel, please call Jim Gahr at 250-585-3125.** The last date for cancellation to avoid billing is **Sunday,**

May 1, 2022. Name Tags will be available at the door for all members attending the April AGM and luncheon. Remember to leave them at the door when you leave after the meeting/luncheon. If your name tag from the last meeting attended had spelling errors, please contact Charles @ 758-2240 or scrivenercharles59@gmail.com

Volunteer Lunch: No charge for Volunteers, \$30 for non-volunteers

EVENTS 2022

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	VENUE	Meal	Cost
May 4	General Meeting	Nanaimo	Golf Club	Buffet	\$ 30.00
May 25	Volunteer Lunch	Parksville	Legion	Hot meal	NC / \$30



President's Report Spring 2022

Spring is the time of new growth and indeed new life and as we enter into Spring time 2022 our new life includes a return to a relatively new normal of our day to day living (though one does have to wonder what normal is these days). For the Nanaimo and Area Branch of the Federal Retirees our normal includes



a return to in person monthly Executive Meetings and thankfully our first in person General Meeting in over two years May 4th at the Nanaimo Golf Club. We hope to see many of you there.... more specific information is outlined later in this newsletter. Your Executive is looking very much forward to welcoming you to this gathering which will also be our Annual General Meeting.

I realize I sound like a broken record, but please, please consider volunteering to help us at the Executive level...if you do not feel confident in becoming a Director but are interested in becoming more involved, let us know and we will be able to find a role to your liking somewhere in our and your organization. It is not an exaggeration that the life of our Branch will be threatened unless some people step forward. One of our key Directors has been playing the same role for over 20 years....he is tired, he needs some help! Please consider stepping in and volunteering, you will not regret it. For more information, please contact me at 250 248 7171.

A highlight of your Branch activities over the last couple of months includes the great work of your Advocacy Committee....promoting and communicating Federal Retirees priorities including meeting with both newly elected area MPs.....and in both cases the MPs said they are very aware of the good work of our Association does working on behalf of our members and all Seniors in Canada. So I would like to make a special recognition to Marg Smith and her Committee for all the work that they do.

As we are returning to in person gathering so is the National Office. There has been a Provincial Meeting scheduled in May in Abbotsford and the National All Members Meeting (AMM) In Ottawa in June. Our Branch will be ably represented at both events.

In closing, I would like to thank all of the Directors for the work that they do on your behalf.....they are very dedicated and a pleasure to work with.....

My wish for you this Spring is that your new beginnings include good health, a strong supportive community and a confidence in what may lie ahead. Oh and did I mention we need help?

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2021

MINUTES

Date: April 29, 2021

Held via ZOOM

There were 36 attendees. Margaret (Marg) Smith declared that the quorum of 29 was met.

President Rick Roberts declared the meeting open at 10:05 a.m.

Zoom instructions were given by Marg. Voting on motions were done by utilizing the 'hand up' feature on Zoom. Marg and Charles Scrivener counted votes. Andy Gilman displayed motions and relevant documents via share screen. Relevant reports were circulated to meeting residents via email in advance of the AGM.

The minutes from our last AGM in 2019 were adopted as presented. There was no 2020 AGM and thus no minutes.

The agenda was adopted as presented.

REPORTS:

President, Rick Roberts. As circulated. The Executive have met during the year via Zoom, Remembrance Day participation was limited to a cash donations to the Legions. The Advocacy Committee was busy making contacts and the President and Directors participated in many webinars and Zoom calls.

Secretary, Sheila Wilson. Minutes were circulated, no further report.

Finance, Penny Kanigan. As circulated. The mandatory Financial Review was completed and forwarded to Headquarters. MOTION: **Moved by Penny Kanigan that our Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2020 showing an Earned/Loss of \$1,198.18 be accepted as presented.** Seconded by Andy Gilman, carried.

Treasurer's report as circulated. Our current worth is \$32,131.57. MOTION: **Moved by Penny Kanigan that the Treasurer's Report**

be accepted as presented. Seconded by Andy Gilman, carried.

Draft budget as circulated. MOTION: **Moved by Penny Kanigan that the proposed Draft Budget for 2021 be accepted as presented.** Seconded by Andy Gilman, carried.

Proposed Reserves. Rick explained that there were concerns about the amount of money held in reserve and it could affect our non-profit status. We have a total of \$15,252.00 to be allocated. MOTION: **Moved by Penny Kanigan, that five reserves be created in the following names and amounts from the current Branch 05 assets; Branch Advocacy \$4000.00, Equipment \$2500.00, Special Events \$2500.00, Recruitment/communications \$2852.00, Training/Succession Planning \$3400.00,** Seconded by Andy Gilman, carried.

Membership, Vic Ashdown, as circulated. Vic was absent, Andy Gilman presented his report. We have 969 DDS Retirees, 166 non-DDS retirees and 612 spouses for a total of 1747. We had a large number of cancellations (102) which may be reflected in those who joined to get the Johnson travel insurance but are not travelling due to Covid-19.

Health and Benefits, Andy Gilman and Sharon Whalen. As circulated. PSHCP is being updated, Dental will be reviewed after this is completed. You and Your Survivor has been updated and is available on the website or via Andy.

Programs, Fran Graham. No gatherings booked due to uncertainty over ongoing Covid-19 restrictions.

Historian, Awards, Charles Scrivener. The Branch 2020 History has been completed and circulated. Many of our volunteers have been identified for service awards. The 5 year volunteers who have been approved by the Executive to receive an award are; Andy Gilman, Linda Wiltse, Caroline Cammiade, Elisabeth Clarke-Gilman, Ginette Descarie, Sharon Ferguson, Helena Hiltz, Lynn Johnston. Those nominated for the President's 15 Year Service Awards must be approved by the membership. MOTION: **Charles Scrivener moved that Barrie Bonfield, Jim Gahr, Cathey Hoogerbrug and Bob Hoogerbrug be granted the President's 15 year Service Awards for 2021.** Seconded by Penny Kanigan, carried.

Advocacy, Marg Smith. As circulated. Covid-19 has pushed discussion and focus on long term, community and home care. Our survey raised issues of concern to our members. Reach 338 initiative - we reached all of our MPs in 2020. During the BC election campaign we contacted all candidates in 4 constituencies. Our plans for 2021 will be communicated to our members. Marg also thanked Christine Walker, Charles Scrivener, Ken Chipeniuk and Ken Jones for their diligent work on the Advocacy committee. Our Branch has been nominated for a National award based on the work of our Advocacy committee. Rick thanked them for their hard work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Elections: At the request of the National Office, we were asked to extend the Executive members whose terms would have expired in 2020. The following members of the Executive were acclaimed for the term 2020-2022: Secretary, Sheila Wilson, Directors; Vic Ashdown, Ian Williams, Jim Gahr, Fran Graham and Sharon Whalen.

There were no nominations from the floor for Executive positions for the term 2021-2023. Therefore the following were acclaimed: President, Rick Roberts, Treasurer, Penny Kanigan, Directors; Andy Gilman, Charles Scrivener, Linda Wiltse, Margaret Smith and Christine Walker. The Vice-President position (due to the resignation of Ken Jones) and 2 Director's positions remain vacant.

Ken Jones led the Executive in the recitation of their oath of Office.

Other:

Rick wished Ken and Lil Jones all our best on their move to Red Deer and expressed thanks for the many years of volunteering that they have done for our Branch. He also thanked all of the Executive for their work during this trying time.

Bob Willis adjourned the meeting at 11:15 am.

Sheila Wilson, Secretary
Rick Roberts, President

Seeing her friend Sally wearing a new locket, Meg asks if there is a Memento of some sort inside. "Yes," says Sally, "a lock of my husband's hair." But Larry's still alive. "I know, but his hair is gone."

BRANCH ADVOCACY

Marg Smith, Branch Advocacy Liaison

Federal Retirees advocacy priorities continue to focus on retirement security, a national seniors' strategy with a focus on principles and standards for long-term care, veterans' well-being and pharmacare.

The Branch Advocacy Committee continued to meet virtually during 2021 to plan advocacy actions for the year.

In June, the Branch placed ads in four local weekly newspapers -- Alberni Valley News; Nanaimo News Now; Parksville Qualicum News; Tofino/Ucluelet Westerly News -- to recognize Public Service Week and thank members of the public service for their extraordinary efforts during the pandemic.

In addition, our President, Rick Roberts, thanked public servants in a letter sent electronically and mailed to Branch members. The letter was also circulated to public servants at the federal building in Nanaimo. Rick's words resonated with many of us and are worth repeating.

Despite dealing with all the normal pandemic employment issues, including working from home and little contact with their staff teams, they (public servants) have met this crisis head on. They have developed and delivered billions of dollars of essential programming, while maintaining the flexibility to enable quick adjustments. During a normal year a thanks is owed to all Public Servants (both past and present) for their extraordinary daily service to Canadians, but this year special recognition is owed to those folks. In many cases, they have put their own lives on hold to help the rest of us get through this most difficult of years. So please, those of you who are on social media, send out a thank you and recognition of this amazing effort or if you are in personal contact with any of these workers, let them know they are appreciated.

Much of the Branch's advocacy work was devoted the federal election held in September 2021. Two of the seven Vancouver Island ridings-- Courtenay-Alberni and Nanaimo-Ladysmith -- are within the boundaries of the Nanaimo & Area Branch.

The Branch wrote letters to candidates in Courtenay-Alberni and Nanaimo-Ladysmith asking candidates for their position on NAFR's priority issues. The letter to Nanaimo-Ladysmith candi-

dates was a joint letter with the Duncan & District Branch. Responses were received in Nanaimo-Ladysmith from: Lisa Marie Barron (NDP), Michelle Corfield (Lib.), and Paul Manly (Green) and in Courtenay-Alberni from Susanne Lawson (Green). All candidates who responded were aware of the Federal Retirees and voiced support for our priorities.

The Branch sponsored the Nanaimo-Ladysmith Candidates' Forum organized by the Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce. Charles Scrivener represented the Branch at the Forum, which had limited in-person capacity due to COVID requirements. The Forum was promoted to our members and the public as a virtual event. Candidates responded to many of the questions we asked them.

The election produced a new Parliament that is virtually the same as the last one, in terms of seats for each party. Of the 23 seats that changed hands across the country, six were in BC and some of these were close-fought ridings.

The ridings of concern to the Branch saw the re-election of the incumbent NDP MP, Gord Johns, in Courtenay-Alberni and the election of a new NDP MP, Lisa Marie Barron, in Nanaimo-Ladysmith. Following the election, we sent letters to congratulate both MPs.

In 2021 the Branch was nominated for the Federal Retirees volunteer award for advocacy. We were pleased to have the Branch's advocacy work recognized through the nomination.

Our advocacy efforts will continue in 2022 as we meet with Members of Parliament MPs to advance Federal Retirees priorities.

Finally, it is important to recognize and thank Advocacy Committee members, Christine Walker, Charles Scrivener, Ken Chipeniuk, and Mike Wansink who worked diligently throughout 2021 on behalf of Branch members.



Nanaimo and Area Branch Executive 2017 - 2018



Left to right: Ian Williams, Vic Ashdown, Charles Scrivener, Rick Roberts, Linda Wiltse, Andy Gilman, Penny Kanigan, Ken Jones, Sheila Wilson, Sharon Whalen, Jim Gahr, Fran Graham, Marg Smith and Bob Willis. Christine Walker missing.

Financial Report April 2022 - Penny Kanigan

Chequing balance: \$14,397.80, Savings: \$ 3,296.90

Margaret and Bill Smith have completed a review of our financial books and have found them to be acceptable. Thank you Margaret and Bill you've been a major help.

Rick and myself worked with Paula Gilmour of NHQ Finance on our reserves.

Proposed Branch Budget 2022

To be voted on at the May 4, 2022 AGM

INCOME		
Fees – per capita	\$12,200.00	\$3,100 x 4
Interest	460.00	CC interest on GIC's
Total:	\$12,860.00	
EXPENSES		
Advocacy	\$200.00	Misc expenses – Senior Fair
Branch Meeting Expenses	\$200.00	Coffee, etc
Branch Information Sharing	3,000.00	Newsletter
Community Activities	700.00	Remembrance Day 7 x Legion
Equipment Expense	800.00	Computer usage x 5
Mbrsp Recruitment & Engagement	500.00	Printing/hand-outs/notepads
Office rental (Church rent)	360.00	Room rental (9 mtg x\$40)
Stationery/supplies	300.00	Miscell
Phone/Internet	400.00	Licences/software/Zoom pkg.
Postage/PO Box Rental	500.00	Mail outs/PO Box
Regional & District Meetings	400.00	Chilliwack/Duncan
Social Gatherings(less ticket sales)	4,500.00	2xGM 1xAGM
Volunteer Luncheon	1,800.00	Est based on 60 mbrs @ \$30 per
Volunteer Support	1,000.00	Special – 15 year awards
Total:	\$14,660.00	

Based on 2021 memberships, with in person AGM and Volunteer Luncheon

**Election notice for branch AGM
May 4, 2022**

Term: 2022-2024

Vice President: Christine Walker has put her name forward

Directors: Vic Ashdown; Ian Williams; Jim Gahr; Fran Graham

Note: Our registrar, Jim Gahr, has indicated that next year he will be traveling extensively, so an assistant or replacement for his role is also required.

Robert (Bob) Willis
Chair, nominating committee
bobwillisbc@shaw.ca
(250) 468-0260

Two very Elderly friends, Harv and Jack, met in the park every day to feed the pigeons and discuss world problems. One day Jack didn't show up and after a week or so Harv really got worried. A month past and Harv figured old Jack had gone to his heavenly reward, but one day he approached the park and sees Jack! Harv said "For crying out loud Jack what happened to you?" Jack replied "I have been in jail". "Jail" cried Harv "what in the world for?" "Well" Jack said "you know Sue, that little blonde waitress at the coffee shop where we sometimes get coffee?" "Yeah" said Harv "I remember her what about her?" Well one day last month she got mad at me and to get even she charge me with rape. I was so proud of what everyone would think an old fart like me could still do, that when I went to court I pled guilty. The judge then took a good look at me and gave me 30 days for perjury."



Membership Report - Vic Ashdown

As of April 8th, 2022, the Nanaimo and Area Branch had 1730 members comprising 1120 retirees and 610 spouses. Of the 1120 retirees, there are 943 on DDS and 177 pay fees annually to National Office. Since the last Report (August 23rd, 2021), the following changes have taken place:

New or Reinstated Members (49)

Wendy & Tony Benjamin
Reginald Boychuk & Nancy Bolch
Rory & Jean Brown
Vincent & Mary Casey
Charlie & Yvonne Chartrand
Donald & Sharon Coates
John Creighton
Lynda Farrell
Gordon (Val) Fenton
Nicole & Wayne Flewelling
Jeanne & Edwin Freer
Lynn Guindon
Heather Harbo
Deirdre Hunter
James Irvine
David Jones
Lori King
Valerie Laforce
Fletcher & Lisa Logan

Leigh Mazany & Ian Wright

New or Reinstated Members cont'd

Delores Osborne
Lynne Palaia
Bruce & Andrea Patten
Anne Pelton
Mike Pritchard
Darrin & Carol Ramey
Marie Rickwood
Kasumi Robertson
Scott Roy
Melvin & Jacquie Sheng
Jay Simons
Michael & Susan Sinstadt
Diana Slater
Kathy Sundberg
Debbie Zajonskowski

Transferred In (34)

Matilda Andrews
Andrew Burpee & Tanis Campbell

Transferred In cont'd

Anthony & Robin Cichelly
 Sharon Cochrane
 Iona Evans
 Linda Fletcher
 Richard & Evelia Graham
 Gerald Innes & Roberta Francis
 James & Jane Kennedy
 Rory & Shannon Kilburn
 Barry Lamoureux & Russell Adams
 Christine Lareau & Ben Despres
 Robert & Nicole Patterson
 Verna Pinard
 John & Phyllis Randle
 Bradley Ruston
 David & Therese Stone
 Milton & Sharon Wilhelms
 Audrey & Richard Williams
 Robert & Michele Young

Transferred Out (21)

William Clinton
 Jocelyne Couture
 Sharon Daoust
 Delaine & Robert DeClark
 Roland Dubue
 Al & Kathy Heinrich
 Tom & Pat Hickey
 Rosalie McAllister

Transferred Out cont'd

Dorothy & Tony Meagan
 Colleen Moore
 Irene & John Paterson
 Faye Reeves

Membership Cancellations (25)

Rick Saby
 Stan Wilcox
 Harry Ardley
 Gale Buck
 J Cameron
 Bruce & Joyce Craigie
 John Creighton
 Dale & Jill Dichrow
 Wendy Farrington
 John Kubicek
 Randi Leren
 Bill Majercsik & Petra Janusas
 Tammie O'Rourke
 Ken & Maria Scott
 Kathleen Simmons
 Cliff Smyth
 Elva Standish
 Charles (David) Stewart
 Freda Tomlinson, Nanaimo
 Dirk & Carol Van Ek
 Gordon White
 Lorne Zimmerman

In Memoriam**Jim Bourgeois, survived by wife Pat****Arlene Buck, survived by husband
Gale****Mary-Jane Burns****Michael Cane, survived by wife Elsa****Roy Carswell****Robert Drew-Brook****Mike Dunn, survived by wife June****Joan Freeman****Beverly Geisler****Peggy Goodman, survived by husband
Harold****June Hansen, survived by husband
Gerry****Leslie Hatch****Amy Hodges****Sharon Houghton, survived by hus-
band Dave****Sarah (Sally) Houle****Larry Lowden, survived by wife Lynn****James McDougall****Rita McLean, survived by husband
Dwayne****Rick Neugebauer, survived by wife
Suzana****Donald Walduck, survived by wife
Dorothy****Eldon Wiebe, survived by wife June**

**National Association of Federal Retirees
Nanaimo Executive, Directors & Volunteers 2019-2020**

Class	Position	Name	Phone	Email
Executive			Most 250	
Exe	President	Rick Roberts	248-7171	rick.roberts@shaw.ca
Exe	Vice - President	Vacant		
Exe	Secretary	Sheila Wilson	591-2446	mesheshe@shaw.ca
Exe	Treasurer	Penny Kanigan	760-0929	pennykanigan@shaw.ca
Exe	Past President	Bob Willis	468-0260	bobwillisbc@shaw.ca
Directors				
Director	Membership / Database	Vic Ashdown	248-2027	ashdown@shaw.ca
Director	Health & Benefits	Andy Gilman	248-8595	andygilman48@shaw.ca
Director	Health & Benefits			
Director	Advocacy	Marg Smith	586-8690	mrgtsmith80@gmail.com
Director	Newsletter Editor / Web	Ian Williams	758-0954	ianv.will@gmail.com
Director	Awards/Historian	Charles Scrivener	758-2240	scrivenercharles59@gmail.com
Director	Registration	Jim Gahr	585-3125	heidleberghound@shaw.ca
Director	Program / Speakers	Fran Graham	585-8227	fran41@shaw.ca
Director	Telephone	Linda Wiltse	778-269-0895	lmwiltse2@gmail.com
Director	At- Large	Christine Walker	754-4031	walkershomeemail@gmail.com
Coordinators				
Cards	Nanaimo	Sheila Wilson	591-2446	mesheshe@shaw.ca
Cards	Parksville/Qualicum	Michelle Ashdown	248-2027	ashdown@shaw.ca
Cards	Port Alberni	Vacant		
Nominations	Committee Chair	Bob Willis	468-0260	bobwillisbc@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Berna Dennison	758-7792	bernad@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Linda Wiltse	778-269-0895	lmwiltse2@gmail.com
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Barb Williams	758-0954	williv@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Vacant		
Phone Captain	Parksville/Qualicum	Marjorie Rose	594-4002	
Phone Captain	Parksville/Qualicum	Michelle Ashdown	248-2027	ashdown@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Parksville/Qualicum	Judy Southern	752-5586	njsouthern@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Port Alberni	Wendy Stander	778- 421-4244	wendy.tony@shaw.ca
Hospital Visit	Parksville/Qualicum	Vacant		
Hospital Visit	Nanaimo	Sheila Wilson	591-2446	mesheshe@shaw.ca